

The 1st Regional Congress of Neurosurgery in the Danube-Carpathian Region

Neurosurgical Controversies in the Danube-Carpathian Region

The **Romanian Society of Neurosurgery** in collaboration with the University of Medicine and Pharmacy “Iuliu Hatieganu” Cluj-Napoca, and the Society for the Study of Neuroprotection and Neuroplasticity successfully closed the 1st Regional Congress of Neurosurgery in the Danube-Carpathian Region, held at Cluj-Napoca, Romania, between the 24th of May and the 27th of May 2011, congress which gathered for this short period 24 representatives of the countries located in this region, and also 150 participants both at the course and at the congress.

The **1st Regional Congress of Neurosurgery in the Danube Carpathian Region** *Neurosurgical controversies in the Danube-Carpathians Region* was a congress organized with the aim of identifying the common points in the field of diagnosis, treatment and research, but especially to identify together the weakness, the existing controversies and maybe to find keys for the future collaboration in the field of neurosurgery in the Danube-Carpathians Region.

With over a 10 years' tradition the **German-Romanian Course** preceded the congress; the course was organized for the third time consecutively at Cluj-Napoca in collaboration with Prof. Dr. Jurgen Piek from Germany. Invited speakers from Hamburg, Heidelberg, Rostock, Bucharest, Iasi and Cluj-Napoca guaranteed the high scientific level of this event.

The congress was opened in the presence of the representatives of Cluj County, in the person of Prof. Dr. Florin Stamatian, prefect of Cluj County, Dr. Sorin Apostu, the Mayor of Cluj-Napoca, Prof. Dr. Constantin Ciuce, the Rector of the University of Medicine and Pharmacy “Iuliu Hatieganu” Cluj-Napoca, Prof. Dr. A.V. Ciurea, Honorary President of the Romanian Society of Neurosurgery, Prof. Dr. Dafin Fior Muresanu, vice-dean of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Medicine and Pharmacy “Iuliu Hatieganu” Cluj-Napoca, Dr. Robert Offner (Germany) and Prof. Dr. Ioan Stefan Florian vice-dean of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Medicine and Pharmacy “Iuliu Hatieganu” Cluj-Napoca, President of the Romanian Society of Neurosurgery.

Distinguished guests from Germany, Hungary, Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Slovakia, Austria, Republic of Moldova, Greece, and Romania shared their experience with the audience. The discussion and debates on different topics such as controversies in the treatment of gliomas, severe brain injury, intracranial lesion, cerebro-vascular pathology, degenerative spine surgery, neurorehabilitation and decision making were designed to improve the daily neurosurgical practice. The scientific program evidenced different experiences and field of interest in order to create a high level communication platform, providing the opportunity to build a European knowledge. It was a great achievement for all the participants, who witnessed the exchange of experience and expertise of leading neurosurgeon over this great field.

Along with the various social programs, the joy of discovering Cluj-Napoca, one of the most beautiful cities of Romania, enriched the experience of this congress.

We hope this congress to become a source of education, scientific exchange, innovation and collaboration among countries in the Danube-Carpathian Region.

Considering in this respect the *Neurosurgical controversies in the Danube - Carpathians Region* a commencement, and also the beginning of a fruitful, long-term collaboration in this region, we warmly welcome you all at the Second Regional Congress of Neurosurgery in the Danube-Carpathian Region at Cluj-Napoca in 2012.

Prof. Dr. Ioan Stefan Florian
President of The Romanian Society of Neurosurgery